



Donna M. Collette

July 8, 1946 - January 25, 2024

Donna M. Collette, age 77, of Kankakee passed away Thursday, January 25, 2024 at her home. She was born July 8, 1946 in Kankakee, the daughter of Leonard & Margaret (Benoit) Bissonnette. Donna married Michael “Terry” Collette on November 21, 1964 at St. George Catholic Church. He preceded her in death on October 28, 2018 after 54 years of marriage.

Donna was a 1964 graduate of St. Patrick School. She was a very talented Cosmetologist and ran a business out of her home for many years. She was a very accomplished gardener who enjoyed painting, restoring, and maintaining her historic home with her husband. Most of all, Donna loved spending time with her family.

She was a parishioner of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church.

Surviving are one daughter, Chris Wenskus of St. Anne; one grandchild, Sean Wenskus; four sisters and four brothers-in-law, Kay & Joe McTaggart of Chebanse, Virginia & Donald Surprenant of Bourbonnais, Jackie & Gene Miller of Momence, and Sandra & Donald Benjamin of Bourbonnais; numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins; special niece and caregiver, Jill Granger; and special friend, John Weiss and her Route 66 friends. In addition to her husband, Michael “Terry” Collette, Donna is preceded in death by her parents; one sister, Jane Granger; one brother-in-law, Kenneth Granger; and several aunts and uncles.

Visitation will be held from 9-11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at Schreffler Funeral Home in Kankakee. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 12

Noon, also on Wednesday, at St. George Catholic Church. Rev. Dan Belanger will celebrate the Mass. Interment will follow at St. George Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the River Valley Animal Rescue or Friends of St. Rose of Lima Chapel.

Cemetery Details

St. George Cemetery

Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 31. 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Mass

JAN 31. 12:00 PM (CT)

St. George Catholic Church
5272 East 500 N. Road
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 933-7339

Tribute Wall

NB

“ Donna did my mother’s hair for years and lived right next to my mom’s driveway. Donna (and Terry too!) were Guardian Angels for both of my parents. I know Mardi and Jack adored them. Donna you were an amazing woman and ALWAYS looked great in jeans! God bless you.

Nan Breon - March 06, 2025 at 07:54 PM

IW

“ I am truly blessed to have met Donna. So encouraging, energetic. With all Donna smiles and hugs. Donna gave her all with pride and Joy. A beautiful person with a heart of gold. One of my most memorable visit with Donna was when John, Larry and I went to her home to help Donna out. We pulled into the driveway and got out. I told Larry see that little pumpkin on her table. I think I will give it to Donna as a gift. Knowing it was Donna’s. When Donna answered the door . I told Donna that Larry and I brought her this perfect shaped pumpkin and Donna was very surprised and said” thank you”until Donna realized it was her pumpkin. We laugh and laugh in good spirits . Donna thank you for being my friend. You’re a Crystal Star shining upon us from the heavens above.

Ike Widner - January 30, 2024 at 09:49 PM

CG

“ Donna was one of the most energetic persons I have ever met!

The first time I saw a picture of Donna she was holding a latter!

The first time I met Donna, I felt her sincere kindness, a very loving soul.



As part of John's Route 66 family, we all loved Donna immediately! She made the most incredible carrot cake for Larry's B.day last year.

Seriously folks, it was a 5 lb cake of pure delight!

Donna always jumped in to help out. I am just so happy that she jumped on the bus tours with John to have her own amazing adventures on Route 66 with filming crews from different tv programs, to attend live theater performances, to the quite car rides with Finn and John to their favorite Hot Dog Stand - Joey's. Even John's dog Finn, loved Donna! Even our pets know when someone is missing. We all knew, including Finn, Donna was the one.

If I could describe their time together, it would be a RomCom! A Romantic Comedy, they always came to the rescue for each other. John with house projects, from plumbing to tree trimming. Donna made two mad dashes to the ER for John, for minor stitches. She was "Wonder Woman" to the rescue!

The short time they shared together they lived the lives of 20 people in two years!! Yes Donna will be deeply missed, she is a reminder to us all to live to the fullest & always love your family & friends. Thank you Donna -

Cathy Goodman - January 29, 2024 at 05:42 PM

AS

“ We are so grateful that we had the chance to be Donna's neighbor over the last 4,, years. She was a blessing to us and thankful we had the chance to get to know her. I learned so much about gardening from her and will think of her when I am caring for my flowers. We are lifting the family in our prayers. ❤️🙏❤️

Amanda and Steven - January 28, 2024 at 11:23 PM

JS

“ Judy Steele lit a candle in memory of Donna M. Collette



Judy Steele - January 28, 2024 at 11:02 PM

SC

“ Donna was a customer of ours at the beauty supply. It was always great to see her when she came in. She was a wonderful lady and I'm glad to have known her. My condolences to her family.
Shari from CosmoProf

Shari Camp - January 28, 2024 at 06:51 PM

JW

“ They say that there are angels all around us but seldom are they seen. I was fortunate and blessed to have met one, her name was Donna! John Weiss

John Weiss - January 28, 2024 at 03:29 PM

JB

“ *Julie Barber lit a candle in memory of Donna M. Collette*



Julie Barber - January 28, 2024 at 03:23 PM

DP

“ *Dale Pardy purchased the I Have You In My Heart Plush Blanket for the family of Donna M. Collette.*



Dale Pardy - January 28, 2024 at 12:54 PM

DN

“ *My husband Steve & I were blessed to have known Donna through the Rt. 66 Association. We have many memories of Donna, but this is my favorite. A couple of years ago, as I was putting out door prizes for our banquet, Donna brought a framed die cut of the old Miss Dairy Queen girl. I was excited to see it, because I had tried winning it at a recent car show raffle. The time came for the tickets to be drawn for the door prizes. Donna's number was one of the first ones drawn. She went up and got the Dairy Queen girl and brought it over to me! I found out later that Donna had told her table that whoever had their number drawn should get the Dairy Queen girl and give it to me. That was just the sweetest thing. Every time I see that happy smile on my girl I will remember sweet Donna and her kindness.*

Steve & Diane Nalefski

Diane & Steve Nalefski - January 27, 2024 at 10:25 PM

KA

My husband Johnny and I had the pleasure of meeting Donna through John Weiss. She immediately became one of our Route 66 family members. I have been battling my own serious health problems. She and John often sent me beautiful "Get Well" cards. But, Donna even in her own health issues sent me cards on her own. We love Donna, and heaven is so lucky to receive her beautiful soul as another Angel to watch over us.

Kathleen708@hotmail.com - January 30, 2024 at 05:18 AM

JC

Jerri.cann@hotmail.com

We are out of town & will miss her services, but Donna was a 1964 classmate & a "St George" friend of mine at St Patrick Central Catholic High School. What great friend & talent in Cosmetology! Condolences to all her family & friends-she will be missed! 🙏❤️

Jerri Cann - January 30, 2024 at 09:52 PM

TE

“ Tim And Connie Eaker lit a candle in memory of Donna M. Collette



Tim and Connie Eaker - January 27, 2024 at 07:13 PM

PC

“ Many memories of my Aunt Donna and the fancy dinners at her place. May she find comfort and rest in the arms of the Lord. Amen



Paul Collette - January 27, 2024 at 04:42 AM

BJ

“ Sandy, so very sorry for your loss. Hugs,
thoughts and prayers.
Barb Jackson



Barb Jackson - January 27, 2024 at 12:48 AM

JF

“ Jolynne Fahey lit a candle in memory of
Donna M. Collette



Jolynne Fahey - January 26, 2024 at 10:57 PM

CS

“ Cathie Stevanovich lit a candle in memory of
Donna M. Collette



Cathie Stevanovich - January 26, 2024 at 08:20 PM

JE

“ Jeremy purchased the "On Angel's Wings" Symp
athy Gift Wind Chime to Send for Funeral Or Me
morial for the family of Donna M. Collette.



Jeremy - January 26, 2024 at 06:39 PM

JE

“ Jeremy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donna M. Collette.

Jeremy - January 26, 2024 at 06:39 PM